

R E M A R K S

Claims 9-11, 15-6, 18-19, and 21-24 remain in the application for reconsideration.

Amendments to the Specification

Because of printing errors in the originally-filed application, applicants amended numerous paragraphs of the specification to correct depiction of certain Greek symbols, i.e., the omega symbol for “ohm” and the symbol for “ π ”. These symbols were apparently not recognized and improperly translated by the computer printer used to prepare the originally filed specification. Other minor grammatical errors were also corrected.

In addition, paragraph 40 was edited to reflect new reference numerals in Fig. 4B. This amendment is being made to further characterize the timing implemented by the “timing circuit” to control the switching device, as recited in the claims. No new matter was added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

The antecedent basis question raised by the examiner’s rejection of claim 16 under 35 USC §112 is resolved by the substitute claims. The term “transistor” has been recast as “switching device.” In addition, the recitals of the substitute claims resolve possible §112 questions in other pending claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The examiner rejected claims 9-11 and 18 under §102(b) as being anticipated by assignee’s prior patent issued to Larrick, et al. (U.S. Patent 6,026,125). Upon studying the examiner’s reasoning, it appears that a certain aspect of the invention was not duly considered, and perhaps, may not have been clearly set forth in the original claim language.

An important aspect of the invention concerns dissipating a majority of